

REMARKS

Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Grove #4,792,017. Examiner states that Grove discloses a metal telescopic ladder extension assembly comprised of hollow exterior leg components (threaded), threaded extendable interior legs, which are received within the hollow exterior leg components, and metal securing assembly (pin), used to secure the extendable led in desired position.

Grove does not anticipate the present invention. Grove discloses an adjustable support to be attached to one end of ladder legs. A key element in this invention is a threaded block-like member that is split into two halves, which when connected together hold an externally threaded member. The externally threaded member can be released to slide when moving handle-like members 52 disconnecting the two halves of the block-like member. Therefore, the function of the invention disclosed by Grove is completely different from the present invention.

To further illustrate the difference of the present disclosure to the one of Grove the applicant points out that the locking members 28 of Grove invention are bolts that are attached under the block-like member. This is nothing similar to the securing pins of the present invention, where the pins are mounted through holes of exterior and interior legs that are aligned to fit to each other. This feature of the present invention is shown in Figure 1 and is now amended into the language of claim 6.

The applicant believes that the claims as amended are patentable and Grove does not anticipate this invention.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Planck et al. #4,029,174. Examiner states that Planck discloses a telescopic ladder extension assembly comprised of hollow exterior leg components 11,15 (threaded), and threaded extendable interior legs 17, which are received within the hollow exterior legs.

Planck does not anticipate the present invention. Planck discloses a ladder the legs of which each has a notch at the lower end fitted with a stationary metal block secured by rivets. There is a vertical threaded opening in the metal block that receives a metal extension. The metal block having the opening with interior threading is of limited length and therefore the screw extension is also of limited length. Differently from this, the present invention describes a mechanism that allows extension of about two times the original height of the ladder. The interior smaller telescopic leg can be as long as the exterior larger leg and therefore can be screwed out to extend the length of the ladder to almost twice of the original length.

Moreover, as according to the present invention both the exterior and the interior leg can be hollow (as seen in Fig. 2) this assembly is very light. Opposite to this is the assembly of Planck including the metal block that makes the assembly clearly heavier. Therefore also a longer metal block would not be a working embodiment of Planck. Also the invention of Planck needs the rivets to hold the metal block in the notch.

Furthermore, the invention of Planck necessitates a footpad, as the extending part is a narrow screw, which would not hold the ladder security. The invention according to the present disclosure does not need a foot pad, as the inner leg is snugly fits into the hollow outer leg and therefore it is almost as wide as the exterior leg.

Examiner lists seven US patents he regards pertinent to applicants disclosure. Applicant believes that his invention is patentable over the listed prior art for the reasons given below.

Martin #5,913,382 describes an extension system for a ladder comprising two set of parallel vertically oriented supports attached to the lower part of the ladder. The extending part of this system can only be as long s the extension bar in which the extending part goes into. The disclosure of Martin also necessitates a footpad, as the extending part is a narrow screw. Applicant believes that his invention is patentable over Martin.

Saby #4,907,675 discloses an element to extend a ladder. This invention includes a part that can be attached in ladders. The part consists of two uprights and at least one crosspiece, thereby extending the length of both of the legs. This invention does not allow extension of one leg alone. The applicant does believe that his invention is patentable over Saby.

Huang #4,671,383 discloses a ladder leveler having a base suitable to receive a pair of extending legs. Again in this invention the length of the extension part is very limited. Moreover, the assembly includes the adaptor that needs to be attached to the ladder before the legs can be extended. The applicant does believe that his invention is patentable over this disclosure.

Gerber #4,209,078 discloses an extendable devise that is attachable on the side of a ladder leg. . A vertical sleeve is clamped to the ladder and an extending part can be sleeved out. The extension can be only as long as the sleeve. To extend both of the legs of the ladder one should have two such devices. The applicant does believe that his invention is patentable over this disclosure.

Pears #4,090,586 discloses a housing that is attached on the side of a ladder leg. A screw extending from the housing can be used to extend the length of the ladder leg. In order to use the device one has to attach it first to the ladder. Moreover, if one would like to extend both of the legs one should have two of such housings. The applicant does believe that his invention is patentable over this disclosure.

Seyler #3,990,671 discloses sleeve or socket to be attached poles of ladders for secure use in a swimming pool. The device consists of a sleeve or a socket that is attached with bolts to the pole. The applicant does believe that his invention is patentable over this disclosure.

Bauman # 3,791,487 discloses a device attachable to the side rails of ladder. Again the device has to be attached to the ladder before the legs can be extended and one needs two of these devices if one would like to extend both of the legs. The applicant does believe that his invention is patentable over the disclosure of Bauman.

CONCLUSION

By virtue of the amendments and the arguments presented above the Applicant believes that his application is deemed patentable over the cited art. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsiders and withdraws his rejections and allows this application to pass to issue.



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